

Iowa Crops & Weather



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For the week ending September 14, 2008

CROP MATURATION ACCELERATES

Agricultural Summary: Heavy rainfall shortened the work week for many Iowa farmers. The precipitation reduced moisture shortages in some areas and produced isolated but significant surpluses in parts of southern and southeastern Iowa. Statewide, topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies were mostly adequate. Cool temperatures and ample moisture supplies promoted forage growth, but wet fields limited hay harvest. Farmers chopped corn silage and harvested seed corn when weather permitted.

There were 3.8 days suitable for fieldwork, compared to 5.5 days last year at this time. Topsoil moisture is rated 5 percent very short, 13 percent short, 68 percent adequate, and 14 percent surplus across the state. Subsoil moisture is rated 4 percent very short, 17 percent short, 67 percent adequate, and 12 percent surplus.

Field Crops Report: Corn at or beyond the dough stage advanced to 92 percent, 2 weeks later than last year and the five-year average. Normally, 99 percent is at or beyond the dough stage by this date. Seventy-one percent of the corn has reached the dent stage. Denting progress lags more than 2 weeks behind last year's 95 percent pace and nearly 2 weeks behind the 5-year average of 92 percent. Eleven percent of the corn is mature, compared with last year's 61 percent and the 5-year average of 45 percent. Corn condition is rated 3 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 25 percent fair, 48 percent good, and 15 percent excellent. Fifty-eight percent of the soybeans are turning color, 8 days behind last year's 79 percent pace and 1 week behind the 5-year average of 82 percent. Soybeans dropping leaves advanced to 16 percent, compared with 46 percent last year and 44 percent normally shedding leaves by this date. Soybean condition is rated at 3 percent very poor, 9 percent poor, 28 percent fair, 47 percent good, and 13 percent excellent. The third cutting of alfalfa progressed to 71 percent complete, 20 percentage points behind last year and 23 percentage points behind the five-year average. All hay condition is rated 4 percent very poor,

13 percent poor, 34 percent fair, 40 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

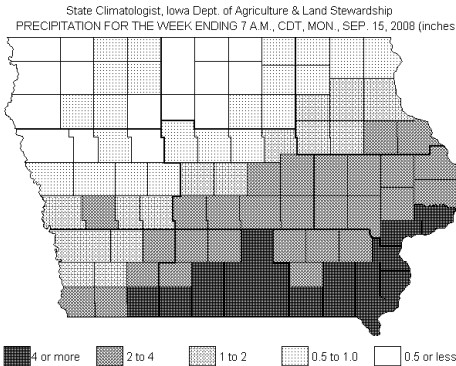
Livestock, Pasture and Range Report: Pasture and range condition is rated 4 percent very poor, 13 percent poor, 32 percent fair, 42 percent good, and 9 percent excellent.

IOWA PRELIMINARY WEATHER SUMMARY Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist

The past work week began with very cool and wet conditions on Monday (8th). Highs on Monday were only in the mid 50's east to mid 60's west with rain falling across the southeastern three-fourths of the state. Dry and cool conditions prevailed Tuesday (9th) and Wednesday (10th). Temperatures fell into the 30's in many areas on Tuesday morning with Audubon and Guthrie Center reporting the lowest temperatures with 35 degree readings. Temperatures rose above seasonal normals from Thursday (11th) through Saturday (13th) with the warmer weather accompanied by very heavy rainfall over southeastern Iowa. Daytime highs reached 83 degrees at Swea City on Thursday and 81 degrees at Shenandoah on Saturday. Remnants of tropical storm Lowell, originating in the eastern Pacific Ocean, brought four to seven inches of rain to southeastern Iowa on Friday into Saturday morning. Meanwhile remnants of Hurricane Ike brought more rain to the extreme southeast corner of the state on Saturday night into Sunday. A cold front brought windy and much cooler weather into Iowa on Sunday (14th) with Sibley recording a low of 32 degrees by Monday (15th) morning. Temperatures for the week as a whole averaged 3.1 degrees cooler than normal. Precipitation totals varied from 0.24 inches at Forest City to 8.55 inches at Oakland Mills in Henry County. The statewide average precipitation for the week was 2.24 inches or nearly three times the normal of 0.82 inches. This was Iowa's wettest week in 13 weeks (mid-June).

Statewide Crop Conditions as of September 14, 2008					
Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn	3	9	25	48	15
Soybeans	3	9	28	47	13
Hay, all	4	13	34	40	9
Range & Pasture	4	13	32	42	9

PRELIMINARY IOWA PRECIPITATION Provided by Harry Hillaker, State Climatologist



Field Work and Crop Progress as of September 14, 2008

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year	Normal
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Corn in or past dough stage	96	92	92	96	94	91	86	76	92	92	82	99	99
Corn in or past dent stage	74	73	70	85	74	64	64	42	67	71	50	95	92
Corn mature (safe from frost)	11	7	10	16	9	9	15	5	10	11	3	61	45
Soybean leaves turning color	67	67	75	63	61	47	46	25	44	58	29	79	82
Soybeans dropping leaves	22	19	29	15	16	8	16	6	6	16	5	46	44
Hay, alfalfa - third crop harvested	94	93	83	86	62	79	74	44	68	71	61	91	94

Days Suitable & Soil Moisture Condition as of September 14, 2008

Item	Districts									State	Last Week	Last Year
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE			
Days suitable	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days	Days
	4.3	4.8	4.2	3.4	3.5	2.7	4.4	3.5	3.3	3.8	5.3	5.5
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil moisture												
Very short	7	9	13	2	0	0	12	0	0	5	9	0
Short	18	30	21	11	4	5	15	9	1	13	22	4
Adequate	71	61	62	85	78	68	71	61	50	68	65	86
Surplus	4	0	4	2	18	27	2	30	49	14	4	10
Subsoil moisture												
Very short	5	6	10	1	0	3	15	0	0	4	5	1
Short	23	31	32	14	6	3	21	11	1	17	20	5
Adequate	67	62	55	82	79	65	61	62	66	67	71	82
Surplus	5	1	3	3	15	29	3	27	33	12	4	12

Weather Summary For National Agricultural Statistics Service, Iowa Field Office
For the week ending: Sunday, September 14, 2008, Prepared by AWIS, Inc.

STATION	CURRENT WEEK						SINCE APRIL 1		CURRENT WEEK	
	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION		PRECIPITATION		GDD BASE 50F	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL	DFN
	North West District									
Estherville	80	36	61	0	0.48	-0.35	18.74	-0.30	77	2
Sioux Center	76	39	62	-2	0.54	-0.16	17.87	-0.78	86	-8
Spencer	81	37	62	-1	0.78	-0.02	17.45	-2.46	85	3
Spirit Lake	77	44	59	-3	0.45	-0.32	16.67	-2.23	63	-51
North Central District										
Britt	77	39	59	-6	0.97	0.09	27.60	6.90	64	-32
Humboldt	76	41	60	-4	0.57	-0.27	27.48	6.18	70	-19
Mason City	79	36	61	-1	0.58	-0.33	31.09	9.17	79	-3
Osage	78	39	60	-4	0.54	-0.46	31.58	9.12	68	-35
North East District										
Decorah	75	36	62	-3	0.58	-0.38	32.50	10.98	83	-10
Dubuque	77	45	63	-1	2.42	1.26	32.23	9.00	89	1
Elkader	77	37	59	-5	1.83	0.95	38.88	17.54	65	-50
Fayette	75	41	60	-4	0.89	-0.02	36.85	14.45	70	-19
Waterloo	78	38	62	-2	1.82	0.98	35.55	13.52	89	-2
West Central District										
Carroll	76	42	61	-3	1.02	0.18	29.53	7.08	77	-16
Castana	80	44	61	-5	1.33	0.49	26.62	6.66	79	-14
Guthrie Center	79	35	62	-4	1.71	0.80	34.25	12.12	86	-14
Harlan	77	39	61	-5	2.23	1.08	26.42	4.92	77	-16
Jefferson	76	40	61	-4	0.85	0.01	30.50	8.05	76	-17
Logan	79	39	61	-5	1.75	0.84	23.57	2.91	80	-27
Rockwell City	79	44	61	-4	0.83	-0.08	27.04	5.53	82	-21
Sac City	78	43	60	-3	1.07	0.16	26.45	5.34	73	-17
Sioux City	80	41	64	-1	1.19	0.49	20.70	3.31	101	-2
Central District										
Boone	74	40	61	-5	1.53	0.66	40.17	17.50	75	-24
Des Moines	80	44	65	-2	2.25	1.41	36.21	14.97	104	-10
Grundy Center	76	39	60	-3	1.77	0.96	37.56	15.78	74	-10
Marshalltown	76	39	62	-2	2.27	1.37	35.41	12.58	87	-2
Newton	78	43	62	-4	2.67	1.69	32.96	11.28	85	-18
Perry	78	39	62	-3	2.06	1.24	33.59	12.04	84	-9
Toledo	77	42	60	-4	3.10	2.20	38.66	15.60	76	-15
East Central District										
Cedar Rapids	77	42	62	-3	3.55	2.58	36.88	15.32	89	-11
Davenport	77	41	64	-3	3.81	3.00	31.25	10.13	102	-12
Iowa City	78	44	65	-3	3.00	2.06	34.10	10.56	105	-15
Lowden	79	38	60	-4	2.76	1.71	28.12	4.28	77	-23
Maquoketa	76	42	60	-3	3.11	2.08	35.00	13.22	75	-14
Muscatine	77	47	65	-3	4.09	3.18	36.92	14.90	105	16
South West District										
Atlantic	78	42	64	0	2.16	1.15	32.82	12.39	102	6
Clarinda	77	38	62	-4	3.65	2.58	27.70	3.45	86	-21
Glenwood	79	39	63	-4	2.59	1.66	33.91	11.89	91	-23
Red Oak	81	39	64	-4	1.67	0.59	32.19	8.25	97	-20
Sidney	80	42	63	-5	2.73	1.75	30.77	8.10	91	-26
South Central District										
Allerton	76	38	61	-5	4.98	3.86	45.10	22.27	84	12
Beaconsfield	74	44	62	-4	4.09	3.04	37.31	15.22	84	-21
Chariton	77	36	61	-5	4.71	3.49	39.40	16.07	79	-26
Indianola	79	38	62	-4	4.03	3.12	41.33	19.40	87	-16
Leon	76	37	62	-4	5.36	4.33	34.06	11.05	85	-22
South East District										
Bloomfield	78	42	63	-5	5.64	4.52	40.29	17.08	90	-28
Burlington	78	42	67	0	6.01	5.03	31.49	10.04	122	6
Ottumwa	79	40	64	-4	3.00	1.95	35.92	14.44	98	-19
Washington	80	40	62	-6	4.10	3.12	34.89	13.93	88	-5

Precipitation (rain, melted snow or ice) in inches. Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more. Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.
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